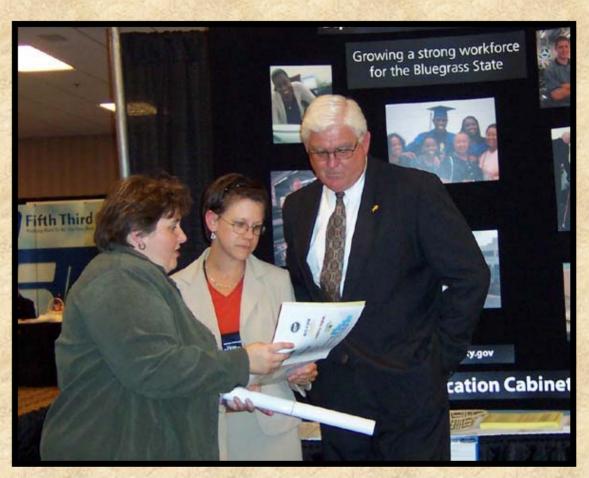
Department for Workforce Investment Participates in 20th Annual Kentucky SHRM Conference

The Department for **Workforce Investment** recently participated in the 20th Annual Kentucky **Society for Human Resource Management** (SHRM) Conference in Louisville. Representatives from each of department's offices were included in the endeavor at the request of **Commissioner Laura** Owens. SHRM is the world's largest association devoted to human resource management.

The Department for Workforce Investment's Booth at the SHRM conference made a positive



(I to r) - Office of the Blind Human Resources Development Coordinator Chandra "CJ" Jones, KY Business Leadership Network State Coordinator Katie Wolf Smith and Office of Career and Technical Education Deputy Lewis Carter discuss the importance of workforce development issues. impression on the human resource managers throughout KY. It provided an opportunity to show Kentucky business and industry representatives the commitment state government has in assisting them to become successful in the commonwealth.

KY Tech Business & Industry Branch Manager Stan Carton, Training and Development Specialist Jill Ralston and Executive Assistant/Safety Coordinator Don Smith were on hand to meet with employers throughout the conference.

"HR managers are in constant communication with their department heads and supervisors and are in charge of training or work with a training director. Our schools can play an important role in the delivery of private sector training," said Carton.

"It was a great experience for me because I was able to speak with several HR representatives that I have written Bluegrass State Skills Corporation (BSSC) grants for in the past. It is always important to be able to network with these individuals," said Ralston. "The booth was an excellent tool for me to introduce BSSC grants to company representatives that had never heard of the training grants. It is always a pleasure to speak with companies about this program and see the company's representative light up about possible financial incentives on training that the company will be performing in the future."

"Our role in providing quality technical education customized skills training is well-known throughout the state. This conference provided another avenue for us to reach companies who haven't had an opportunity to be serviced by our area technology centers," said Smith. "Our expertise is in developing and delivering a quality product for the industries we serve and we have a proven track record."



(I to r) - Debbie Dusek, Adecco vice president of the Central KY region; OB HRD Coordinator CJ Jones; OCTE Training & Development Specialist Jill Ralston; and Kathy Courtney, Adecco area vice president and a member of the Northern KY WIB discuss possible employment opportunities for Workforce Investment customers.

"We have the state of KY contract for temporary services," said Courtney.

"KY state government is ranked as one of our top 5 clients," relayed Dusek.

Office for the Blind (OB) Human Resources Development Coordinator CJ Jones coordinated the efforts for the department.

"We had a meeting with the KY Chamber of Commerce to talk about ways to get the message out about qualified blind or visually impaired employees into the workforce. From there, the talks spread through the Department for Workforce Investment and we consider this event a success," says Jones. "I was delighted to meet with Adecco representatives to discuss the potential recruitment of assignment employees from Department for Workforce Investment service providers. The contacts will be invaluable."

"As participants in this conference, we have had an excellent opportunity to promote the various types of services the Department for Workforce Investment provides to and for employers," said Career and Technical Education Deputy Executive Director Lewis Carter. "Of value to the Office of Career and Technical Education is the fact that our business and industry



branch personnel have been able to make important contacts with human resource managers about the types of training our system offers. This will undoubtedly create new partnerships in the future."



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Lewis Carter (r) talks with Laurabeth Albright, community resource coordinator for the National College of Business and Technology.